

# North/White

Wednesday November 28, 2018

ESPRIT ORCHESTRA

Alex Pauk Founding Music Director & Conductor **Season Sponsor** 







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At BMO, we take pride in our local communities.

# MUSIC DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

# THE GREATEST CARE

The composers on this evening's concert have each shown the greatest care in their approaches to the music as well as the subject matter being dealt with in their pieces.

Thorvaldsdottir puts listeners in an immersive acoustic space to take them into a floating realm away from daily cares and yet, one that promotes a heightened sense of perception. She even compares a long-sustained pitch to a fragile flower to be treated with utmost care.

Louie, in a work of transparency, creates carefully formed sonic textures and surprising interfaces between sensuous throat singing and Western instruments. At the outset of composing the work, Louie elicited from throat singer Evie Mark, legends as well as stories of the elders to inspire her vibrant portrayal of Indigenous tradition and experience.

In North/White, Schafer's caring about the "idea of North" as the core Canadian identity provides the essence of his grand depiction of the wondrous mythological nature of our Arctic as well as the environmental degradation that comes with humankind's intrusion in the region. The splendid, tranquil sense of Northern purity depicted in the orchestral writing is ingeniously confronted by acoustic symbols of technological noise and pollution.

In matters related to each of these pieces, my hope is that tonight's concert stimulates some thoughts on what you care about.

Alex Pauk, C.M.

Founding Music Director

Alef Pank

# North/White ESPRIT ORCHESTRA

ALEX PAUK, Music Director and Conductor

Wednesday November 28, 2018 | Koerner Hall

# **GUEST ARTISTS**

Evie Mark and Akinisie Sivuarapik - Inuit throat singers

7:15pm

**Pre-Concert Talk** 

Hosted by Alexina Louie

8:00pm

Concert

**PROGRAM** 

Anna

Thorvaldsdottir

(Iceland)

**Dreaming** (2008)\*

# INTERMISSION

# Alexina Louie

(Canada)

# Take the Dog Sled (2008)

Tundra

II. Sharpening the Runners on the Dog Sled
– with throat singers

III. Snow Goose - with throat singers

IV. Cradle Song

 The Mosquito – with throat singers (There is no break between The Mosquito and Bug

Music) VI. Bug Music

VII. The River - with throat singers

VIII. Great Dog Sled Journey (Keep Going)

- with throat singers

# INTERMISSION

R. Murray Schafer (Canada)

North/White (1973)

<sup>\*</sup> Canadian Premiere



# Be part of our orchestra with your phone!

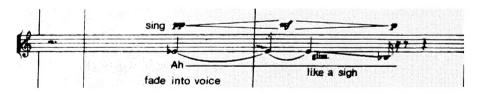
# Join Esprit as a performer in R. Murray Schafer's North/White

# For your cell phone part:

- 1. Go to Esprit's website then go to the *North/White* concert page, where you will see two audio links to choose from.
- 2. On cue from the conductor, press play on one of the links to hear one of the snowmobile sounds at the appropriate moment.

# For your voice part:

1. On cue from the conductor, join the entire orchestra in singing "Aaaahhhh....." on E flat (above middle C) as shown in the notational fragment below.



The length of this "Aaaahhhh...." will be determined on the spot at the performance.

Snowmobiles for this evening's concert generously provided by:



# **ESPRIT ORCHESTRA**

Alex Pauk, Music Director and Conductor

### VIOLIN I

Stephen Sitarski, concertmaster\*
CHAIR SPONSORED BY
DAVID NOVAK

Sandy Baron CHAIR SPONSORED BY DR.DAVID JEONG

Joanna Zabrowarna
Andrea Tynlec
Renee London
Alexey Pankratov
Kate Unrau
Terri Croft
Nancy Kershaw
James Aylesworth
Sheila Jaffé
Catherine Cosbey
Kathryn Sugden
Lynn Kuo
Jennifer Martyn
Lyssa Pelton

### VIOLIN II

Bethany Bergman\*
CHAIR SPONSORED BY
JILL TAYLOR & CHARLES HAZELL

Michael Sproule CHAIR SPONSORED BY DR.DAVID JEONG

Louise Pauls
Xiao Grabke
Erica Beston
Jennifer Burford
Kenin McKay
Laurel Mascarenhas
Suhashini Arulanandam
Elizabeth Loewen-Andrews
Aysel Taghi-Zada

Sonia Klimasko Sarah Fraser Raff Sarah Wiebe

### VIOLA

Carolyn Blackwell\* CHAIR SPONSORED BY EDRED FLAK

Rhyll Peel Nick Papadakis Tony Rapoport Catherine Gray Rory McLeod Katrina Chitty Carol Gimbel Woosol Cho Caitlin Boyle

### **CELLO**

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Marianne Pack
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Olga Laktionova CHAIR SPONSORED BY BARBARA SUTHERLAND IN MEMORY OF JOHN SUTHERLAND

Elaine Thompson CHAIR SPONSORED BY BARBARA SUTHERLAND IN MEMORY OF JOHN SUTHERLAND

Bryan Holt Mary-Katherine Finch Jill Vitols Andrew McIntosh

### **BASS**

Hans Preuss\*
Rob Wolanski
Natalie Kemerer
Nick Davis
Calum MacLeod
Sherri Preuss

### **FLUTE**

Doug Stewart\*, *piccolo* Maria Pelletier, *piccolo*, *alto flute* Leslie Newman, *piccolo* 

# OBOE

Clare Scholtz\*
CHAIR SPONSORED BY
HELMUT REICHENBÄCHER &
JOHN STANLEY

Karen Rotenberg Aleh Remezau

### CLARINET

Colleen Cook\*
CHAIR SPONSORED BY
DAVID SHERR

Michele Verheul Richard Thomson, bass clarinet

# **BASSOON**

Jerry Robinson\* Larkin Hinder William Cannaway, contrabassoon

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Christine Passmore\* Diane Doig Gary Pattison Linda Bronicheski Bardhyl Gjevori Scott Wevers

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Robert Venables\*, cornet Michael Fedyshyn Brendan Cassin

# **TROMBONE**

David Archer\*
David Pell
Megan Hodge, bass trombone

### **TUBA**

Jennifer Stephen

# **PIANO**

Stephen Clarke\*, celeste

# **HARP**

Erica Goodman\*
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Ryan Scott\*
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Mark Duggan CHAIR SPONSORED BY CHANTAL PERROT

Blair MacKay Andrew Rasmus Dan Morphy Kris Maddigan

\*Denotes Principal Player

# **ALEX PAUK**

# Founding Music Director and Conductor

Alex Pauk was inducted into the Order of Canada on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015. Pauk has revitalized orchestral life for composers across Canada by founding Esprit Orchestra in 1983 and devoting the organization to new music. Through building and sustaining Esprit's high calibre performances, commissioning program, innovative programming (70% Canadian), recordings, outreach projects, national and international tours, and multimedia ventures, Pauk has been a leader in developing and promoting Canadian music at home and abroad.

As a conductor, he attains excellent performances on stage and in recordings. Pauk's commissioning of Canadian composers of all ages and stylistic trends is central to his work. In 2007, Pauk was a recipient of the Canada Council for the Arts Molson Prize, awarded to those who contribute to the cultural and intellectual heritage of Canada. Pauk's commitment to the community through Esprit has also garnered SOCAN and Chalmers Awards, as well as three Lieutenant Governor's Arts Awards. Under Pauk's direction, Esprit was awarded the 2005 Vida Peene Award for excellent standards of performance and programming.

In addition to his work as a conductor, Alex Pauk has a prolific career as a composer, having written music for every kind of performing ensemble. Pauk has composed for and conducted more than sixty works for organizations such as the Société de musique contemporaine du Québec, CBC Vancouver Orchestra, New Music Concerts, Vancouver New Music Society, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, and Esprit Orchestra.

Pauk graduated from the University of Toronto Faculty of Music in 1971. He currently resides in Toronto with his wife, Alexina Louie, who is his vital partner in the development of Esprit Orchestra.

# STEPHEN SITARSKI

# Concertmaster

Stephen Sitarski enjoys an incredibly varied career as a violinist and conductor, and has built an excellent reputation nationally in performances of Baroque music through to jazz and modern. He is also a recognized conductor, adjudicator, music administrator, and teacher. In the contemporary classical music realm, Mr. Sitarski has been on three tours of the United States with Art of Time Ensemble, the last being February 2018 with singer, songwriter, and guitarist Steven Page. He is also a regular member of Toronto New Music Concerts, Arraymusic, and Soundstreams, the last of which included a tour in May 2012 of Taiwan and China, performing works by Tan Dun and R. Murray Schafer.

As a soloist, Mr. Sitarski frequently appears with many concertos in the standard repertoire as well as concertos written especially for him by Canadian composers such as Kelly-Marie Murphy and Glenn Buhr. In April 2019, he will perform Prokofiev's *Violin Concerto No. 2* with the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra, where he also serves as Concertmaster. Mr. Sitarski is also Concertmaster of Esprit Orchestra, and held the same position with the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony (KWS) for 15 seasons (1997 – 2012). In summer 2018, he served as Concertmaster for the orchestra performing the Mirvish Production of *The King and I*. Stephen has also been guest concertmaster across Canada and abroad.

Mr. Sitarski has also added conducting to his roster of duties, having conducted the Mississauga and Georgian Bay Symphonies. Routinely heard throughout Canada on disc and on live radio broadcasts, Sitarski has also performed countless television and film scores. Stephen has always maintained a hand at mentoring and teaching; he will mark his 15<sup>th</sup> year on a faculty of the National Youth Orchestra of Canada. In recognition of this, he was previously awarded the Queen's Jubilee Medal, a nomination submitted by the NYOC. In previous years, Stephen taught at Wilfrid Laurier University, the Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music, and the Banff Centre for the Arts.

He is an advocate for the mental and physical health of musicians, and has given talks about the mental strain of a musician's life. He was profiled in the April 2018 edition of The WholeNote magazine.

# **EVIE MARK**

# Inuit throat singer

Evie started throat singing at age 11 and began performing at 18. Her throat singing has taken her around the world performing alongside orchestras and with other traditional artists, and sharing her culture. She also designs and produces modern / traditional garments. Raised in the small community of Ivuiivik, located at the northernmost point of Nunavik (Quebec), she worked hard to learn her ancestral ways and help to preserve the heritage of her people. Now she is renowned for her remarkable abilities in traditional throat singing and storytelling. Another of Evie's passions has been film production. Her productions and television appearances have aired on APTN and CBC. Currently, Evie teaches Inuktitut and Arts at Nunavik Sivunitsavut, a postsecondary program, geared towards developing knowledge, work, and leadership skills rooted in Inuit culture. She has also taught youth in high schools throat singing, singing, storytelling, designing traditional clothing. She's led presentations and workshops in most schools in Nunavik and British Columbia.

# **AKINISIE SIVUARAPIK**

Inuit throat singer

Akinisie Sivuarapik was born and raised in Puvirnituq, Nunavik in Northern Quebec. She is a well-known artist for performing throat singing and drum dancing. Growing up in her community she always had a very special bond learning the cultural values of throat singing with her grandmother Mary Sivuarapik. "In my family there are more girls than boys, so throat singing was our way of getting together and having fun with my grandmother. I love throat singing because my grandmother made it so special to me." Akinisie has travelled all over the world to share her special gift in places such as Corsica, Germany, Norway, France, Greenland, Belgium, Austria, Mexico, and many places across Canada. She continues to perform and teaches the younger generation of Inuit about the important tradition of Katadjak.

# **PROGRAM NOTES**

# ANNA THORVALDSDOTTIR Dreaming (2008)

Composer's Note:

listen flow free individually embrace listen

When you see a long-sustained pitch, think of it as a fragile flower that you have to carry in your hands and walk the distance on a thin rope without dropping it or falling. It is a way of measuring time and noticing the tiny changes that happen as you walk further along the same thin rope. Absolute tranquility with the necessary amount of concentration needed to perform the task.

# We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following community groups:

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Students from Massey College – University of Toronto

# ALEXINA LOUIE Take the Dog Sled (2008)

Composer's Note:

In August 2000, I was invited by Her Excellency, The Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, then Governor General of Canada, to join her, author John Raulston Saul, and Louise Arbour, former Supreme Court Justice, on a tour of the North West Territories. This was to be my first trip to Northern Canada.

From the vantage point of a small Twin Engine Otter, I found the sight of the Mackenzie River Delta, with its multitudinous number of lakes and waterways, so incredibly beautiful that it literally took by breath away. I was inspired by the people, their art, and their music and I feasted on caribou and Arctic char.

At the conclusion of that memorable trip I told Her Excellency that the effect of that experience would not be so readily obvious in my work as a composer as it might have been on a visual artist, who could sketch or paint what she saw, or on a writer, who could immediately set her experiences down in a journal, a memoir or a book. I told her that it would take time for the experience to resonate with

me, but that the exposure to the North had changed me.

Take the Dog Sled is the result of a fortuitous confluence of a request from Maestro Kent Nagano and the Montreal Symphony Orchestra to compose a new work for seven musicians and two throat singers for their Nunavik tour and my memories of a wonderful journey to the North West Territories. In this work I have attempted to capture some of the joy, tenderness, and energy of life in the North as well the mystical quality of the land. I have also touched upon the humour of the Inuit.

Evie Mark, the remarkable Inuit throat singer who premiered the work in Montreal, gave me so many insights into the people of Nunavik. I was inspired by her many stories of the character of her people - their courage, resilience, humour, their great love for their children, their respect for their land and traditions. She also told me about how the sled dogs had been so important as partners and friends to the Inuit. It seems that the very survival of the people had been tied to the loyalty and reliability of these amazing animals.

All these thoughts came through in songs that Evie recorded and sent to me. From

these I selected four which I have integrated into the meaning and structure of *Take the Dog Sled*: Sharpening Runners on the Dog Sled, Snow Goose, The Mosquito, and The River.

In this composition I didn't want to separate the Inuit songs from the Western instruments by allowing the singers to sing "solo", by having the instruments merely droning or playing sustained chords as back up to their songs, or by giving the percussionist the opportunity to improvise to their rhythms as they sang. This desire, as well as the very real scenario of flying into the communities on small planes (which limited the choice of percussion instruments), presented many challenges.

As such, I became creative in devising such "portable" instruments as a glass marimba constructed from various sizes of glass bottles. As well, some of the players create new sounds by blowing into assigned bottles in order to create sounds in a sonic world parallel to the throat singing. To begin with a sound from nature, the percussionist is instructed to find two hard, resonant stones with which he starts the entire composition.

Each of the eight movements highlights a different Arctic experience. There is no break between *The Mosquito* and *Bug Music*.

# Enjoy the ride!

Take the Dog Sled was commissioned by the MSO through the assistance of the Canada Council for the Arts and is dedicated to the people of Nunavik.

# R. MURRAY SCHAFER North/White (1973)

# Composer's Note:

I call this piece North/White because, like white light which is composed of all visible frequencies, it combines all the producible notes of the symphony orchestra from the deepest to the highest instruments. The North is not described by the adjective "pretty" and neither is this piece. North/White is inspired by the rape of the Canadian North. This rape is being carried out by the nation's government in conspiracy with business and industry. The instruments of destruction are pipelines and airstrips, highways and snowmobiles.

The environment is being destroyed by these actions, for, just as the moon excursions destroyed the mythogenic

power of the moon (it ceased to be poetry and became property), Canadians are about to be deprived of the "idea of North," which is at the core of the Canadian identity. The North is a place of austerity, of spaciousness and loneliness; the North is pure: the North is temptationless. These qualities are forged into the mind of the Northerner: his temperament is synonymous with them. There are few true Canadians and they are not to be found in cities. They do not sweat in discotheques, eat barbecued meat-balls, or watch late movies on television. They do not live in high-rise apartments, preferring a clean space to the smell of neighbours' spaghetti. Yet these few remainders from an authentic time are apparently to be sacrificed and the North, like the South and the West and the East, is to be broken by men and machines.

That, at least, is the design which the little technocrats of progress have planned. They seek not only to civilize the North but to civilize the imagination of the North. They do not realize that when they chop into the North they chop up the integrity of their own minds, blocking the aweinspiring mysteries with gas stations and reducing their legends to plastic dolls. The

idea of North is a Canadian myth. Without a myth a nation dies.

This piece is dedicated to the splendid and indestructible idea of North. The real idea for North/White came to me during a polar flight from Europe to Vancouver over Greenland and Baffin Island. The myriad tints of green and blue in the ice caps suggested a full chromatic spectrum of white sound that would be filtered to reveal certain changing hues. I decided to place a snowmobile in the percussion section as a symbol of noise and pollution generated by technology.

While this attracted a good deal of press attention at the premiere, North/White has rarely been performed, and never by a major orchestra. The reason: capitalist patrons might find it insulting. North and East are the only directions that interest me: the East for sunlight, warmth, history and mythology; the North for purity and austerity. For me the West is just cowboys and chopsticks, and the South symbolizes tropical humidity and laziness. And so, having written East and North/White, I let matters stand.

# Selected messages sent to Esprit on the occasion of our 35th Anniversary:

The Esprit Orchestra and Alex Pauk are a unique and vital force of nature in the Canadian music landscape - dedicated to fostering new Canadian works for orchestra often presented alongside classic works of the 20<sup>th</sup> century canon. Bold and savvy curation on the part of Maestro Pauk has enormously contributed to the fostering of a real, living performance tradition of Canadian orchestral music. My undergraduate studies at McGill were full of encounters with vivid recordings of Esprit playing John Rea, Brian Cherney, R.Murray Schafer, Harry Somers and Chris Paul Harman. Eventually getting to work directly with Esprit and Alex has been one of the great honours of my career. Long live the Esprit Orchestra and best wishes on your 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

~ Matthew Ricketts, composer

Enfant de la Terre et du Ciel Étoilé (Portrait d'un musician) was premiered on April 16, 1989, the first of 2 works commissioned by Alex Pauk and Esprit. It was my first orchestra commission outside Québec. But Alex and Esprit also played two of my existing works with the same dedication. I remember my joy, mixed with a bit of anxiety, in attending the rehearsal in the famous Jane Mallet Theatre. But Alex was so welcoming and the musicians so professional that I felt rapidly part of this great family of musicians totally devoted to new music in Canada, the only orchestra of its kind. It took Alex, Alexina, the musicians and the staff a lot of courage and determination to build this unique orchestra. Congratulations!

~ Denis Gougeon, composer

# COMPOSER BIOGRAPHIES

# ANNA THORVALDSDOTTIR b. 1977

Anna Thorvaldsdottir frequently works with large sonic structures that reveal the presence of a variety of sustained sound materials, reflecting her sense of imaginative listening to landscapes and nature. Her music portrays a flowing world of sounds with an enigmatic lyrical atmosphere.

Anna's music is frequently performed internationally, and has been featured at several major venues and music festivals such as Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival in NYC, the Composer Portraits Series at NYC's Miller Theatre. the Leading International Composers series at the Phillips Collection in Washington DC. Big Ears Festival, Spitalfields Music Festival, ISCM World Music Days, Nordic Music Days. Ultima Festival, Klangspuren Festival, Beijing Modern Music Festival, Reykjavik Arts Festival, Tectonics, and the Kennedy Center in Washington DC. Anna is the recipient of the prestigious Nordic Council Music Prize 2012 for her work Dreaming, the New York Philharmonic's Kravis **Emerging Composer Award in** 2015, and Lincoln Center's 2018 Emerging Artist Award and 2018 Martin E. Segal Award.

Some of the orchestras and ensembles that have performed Anna's work include International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE), New York Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, London's Philharmonia Orchestra, Iceland Symphony Orchestra, Ensemble Intercontemporain, NDR Elbphilharmonie, Bang on a Can All-Stars, Yarn/Wire, The Crossing, Los Angeles Percussion Quartet, San Francisco Contemporary Music Players, Royal Stockholm Philharmonic, Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, CAPUT Ensemble, Oslo Philharmonic, and Either/Or Ensemble, In April 2018, Esa-Pekka Salonen lead the New York Philharmonic in the premiere of Anna's work Metacosmos, which was commissioned by the orchestra. The work will receive its European premiere with the Berlin Philharmonic in January 2019, conducted by Alan Gilbert. Anna is currently Composer-in-Residence with the Iceland Symphony Orchestra.

Anna holds a PhD from the University of California in San Diego. Anna's debut portrait album - *Rhízōma* - was released

in October 2011 through Innova Recordings and was very well received. Anna's portrait album - Aerial - was released by Deutsche Grammophon in November 2014.

In the Light of Air was released by Sono Luminus in August 2015, performed by ICE and appeared on a number of year end lists, e.g. at the New York Times, The New Yorker, Boston Globe, NPR Classical, and Chicago Reader. A new portrait album with a selection of recent chamber pieces - AEQUA - will be released in November 2018 on Sono Luminus, performed by the International Contemporary Ensemble, with two pieces conducted by Steven Schick and a solo piano work performed by Cory Smythe.

Biography courtesy of annathorvalds.com

# ALEXINA LOUIE b. 1949

Alexina Louie is one of Canada's most highly regarded and most often performed composers. Her recognizable sound world, her evocative expressivity, as well as her explorations of Asian culture and philosophy have contributed to the development of her unique musical voice. Her work is communicative and highly dramatic, and it pushes the boundaries of convention and tradition.

Born in Vancouver, British
Columbia where she completed
her initial music training, Louie
continued her composition
studies with new music icon
Pauline Oliveros at The
University of California at San
Diego where she completed her
graduate studies.

Louie's orchestral works have received important performances by internationally renowned conductors such as Sir Andrew Davis, Leonard Slatkin, Charles Dutoit, Kent Nagano, Peter Oundjian, and Ingo Metzmacher. Many of her works have been performed on major Canadian, European, and Asian tours by orchestras (Toronto Symphony, Montreal Symphony Orchestra, National Arts Centre Orchestra) as well as ensembles, and soloists.

Dominique Dumais and Matjash Mrozewski have choreographed ballets to her music for The National Ballet of Canada.

In addition, her vocal and operatic works have been sung by Barbara Hannigan and Russell Braun among others. Burnt Toast as well as Toothpaste, her groundbreaking awarding-winning

made-for-TV operas, have been broadcast around the world.

In 2009, the Canadian Opera Company presented her full-length, main stage opera *The Scarlet Princess* with libretto by Tony Award-winning playwright David Henry Hwang (*M. Butterfly*) in concert before a sold-out audience in Toronto.

Most recently, Louie's virtuoso *Triple Concerto For Three Violins And Orchestra*, commissioned for the concertmasters of The Toronto Symphony, The National Arts Centre Orchestra, and The Montreal Symphony, was performed by all three orchestras during Canada's celebratory 150th Anniversary year.

Louie has twice won JUNO awards for Best Classical Composition. In addition, she is the recipient of many awards and honours including the Jules Léger Prize for New Chamber Music, National Arts Centre Composers Award, Chalmer's Award: Composition, an honourary doctorate from the University of Calgary in addition to many other distinctions. In 2002 she was named an Officer of the Order of Canada.

Performances in 2019 include the European premiere of *Take* 

The Dog Sled in Switzerland as well as retrospective concerts in Cork, Ireland, Vancouver, and Calgary.

Her extensive catalogue can be found at www.alexinalouie.ca

Biography courtesy of the composer.

# R. MURRAY SCHAFER b. 1933

R. Murray Schafer has achieved an international reputation as a composer, educator, environmentalist, scholar, and visual artist. In 1956 he went to Vienna to study medieval German. Returning to Canada in 1961, he directed the Ten Centuries concerts and began teaching, first (1963-65) as artist-in-residence at Memorial University, and then (1965-75) at Simon Fraser University. At SFU, with grants from UNESCO and the Donner Canadian Foundation, he set up the World Soundscape Project for the study of relationships between people and their acoustic environment.

As the 'father of acoustic ecology' Schafer continues to be concerned about the damaging effects of technological sounds on people. Of the various publications Schafer released after his work with the World Soundscape Project, the most

important is *The Tuning of the World* (1977) where he summarizes his soundscape research, philosophies and theories. Through his seminal work in soundscape studies, *The World Forum for Acoustic Ecology*, with 10 member countries, has since been established, meeting every year for international conferences.

The soundscape concept, central to Schafer's thinking, has influenced much of his composition. Schafer's search for a 'hi-fidelity' soundscape led to his move to an Ontario farmhouse which then inspired a series of 'natural-environment' works. The first was Music for Wilderness Lake, for 12 trombones, captured on film by Rhombus Media, His soundscape interest is also reflected in those of his works which employ spatial distribution of the performers, the most ambitious being Apocalypsis, which calls for 500 performers. Schafer has also produced large works involving entire cities in Europe - Coimbra Vibra in Coimbra, Portugal and Deux Milles Sons Pour L'Ans Deux Milles in Sélestat, France.

In the 1980s Schafer's focus was on his epic 12-part cycle of environmental music-dramas entitled *PATRIA*. These works employ music and theatre in a

manner which he calls the 'theatre of confluence', often taking place at unusual hours of the day and in challenging outdoor venues

Schafer's oeuvre has now surpassed 150 compositions covering all genres of music from opera to chamber music. and from choral music to symphonies. He is the recipient of 10 honourary doctorates from Canada, France and Argentina and has been the winner of multiple prestigious awards. including several Junos, the first Glenn Gould Award, the Molson Award, the Walter Carsen Prize and the Governor General's Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Arts, to name only a few. In 2012, he received the Koizumi Prize from Japan and in December 2013 he was named a "Companion of the Order of Canada," the highest honour given to any individual by the nation. Schafer was a professor at the Royal Conservatory of Music's Glenn Gould School in Toronto for three years and has been awarded a lifetime appointment there as Composer Laureate. Images and information about R. Murray Schafer and his work can be viewed at his website www.patria.org.

Biography published by Arcana Editions

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Frances Sedgwick-Pauk

David Silcox & Linda Intaschi

Robert E. Simpson

Jeffrey & Tomiko Smyth

Ana Sokolovic

Audrey Stefanovich

Barbara Thompson in honour of

Margaret Logan and in memory of

her father

Joanne Tod

George & Rebecca Ullman

Richard Upenieks

Nicola von Schroeter

Mark Starowicz

Jessie Wang

Fen Watkin

Stanley & Rosalind Witkin

Anonymous (5)

This listing reflects our best efforts to publish current information as of November 14, 2018. Please contact the Esprit office with any amendments.

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# **UPCOMING CONCERTS**

**Constellations** 

Sunday January 20, 2019

Toshio Hosokawa Concerto for Saxophone and Orchestra Alison Yun-Fei Jiang River Memory Claude Vivier Orion Christopher Goddard Les tringles des sistres tintaient

Part of the Royal Conservatory's 21C Music Festival, as well as the University of Toronto New Music Festival







# **Grand Slam!**

Sunday March 24, 2019

Christopher Thornborrow Trompe l'œil Maki Ishii Afro-Concerto Unsuk Chin Cello Concerto

**New Wave Reprise** 

Friday April 5, 2019

New works by Eugene Astapov, Maria Atallah, Quinn Jacobs, Bekah Simms, Christina Volpini, and Alison Yun-Fei Jiang

Concert Sponsor





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